ABSTRACT

Epoxyeicosatrienoic acids (EETs) are products of cytocrome P450 epoxygenases that have vasodilatory properties similar to endotheilum-derived hyperpolarizing factor (EDHF). The cytochrome P450 isoform CYP2J2 was cloned and identified as a source of EETs in human endothelial cells. Physiological concentrations of EETs or overexpression of CYP2J2 decreased cytolcine-induced endothelial cell adhesion molecule expression and prevented subsequent leukocyte adhesion to the vascular wall by a mechanism involving inhibition of transcription factor NF-κB and IκB kinase (IKK). The inhibitory effects of EETs were independent of their membrane hyporpolarizing effects suggesting that these molecules play an important non-vasodilatory role in vascular inflammation.

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